

R E M A R K S

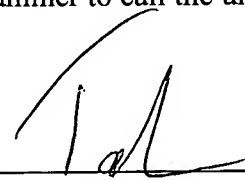
Applicants note that all amendments and cancellations of Claims presented herein are made without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments or rejections, and solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG),¹ and without waiving the right to prosecute the amended or cancelled Claims (or similar Claims) in the future.

In the Office Action dated 11/21/05, the Examiner required election of one of the following groups: Group I (Claims 1-15) and Group II (Claims 16-20). The Applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1-15) without traverse. The Applicants have canceled Claims 16-20 in response to the restriction requirement, while reserving the right to prosecute the canceled claims (or similar claims) in one or more divisional applications. The Applicants have added new Claims 21-24. These claims serve to further define the invention and add no new matter.

C O N C L U S I O N

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, the applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at (608) 218-6900.

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